

Whereas, the GPO and WEP are established in federal law, and repeal of the GPO and the WEP can only be enacted by congress: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to review the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions and to consider eliminating or reducing them; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-84. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to support the reform of the Social Security offsets of the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE PAPER NO. 1204

Whereas, under current federal law, individuals who receive a Social Security benefit and a public retirement benefit derived from employment not covered under Social Security are subject to a reduction in the Social Security benefits; and

Whereas, these laws, contained in the federal Social Security Act, 42 United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter II, Federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits, and known as the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision, greatly affect public employees, particularly women; and

Whereas, the Windfall Elimination Provision reduces by a formula the Social Security benefit of a person who is also receiving a pension from a public employer that does not participate in Social Security; and

Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision are particularly burdensome on the finances of low-income and moderate-income public service workers, such as school teachers, clerical workers and school cafeteria employees, whose wages are low to start; and

Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision both unfairly reduce benefits for those public employees and their spouses whose careers cross the line between the private and public sectors; and

Whereas, since many lower-paying public service jobs are held by women, both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision have a disproportionately adverse effect on women; and

Whereas, in some cases, additional support in the form of income, housing, heating and prescription drug and other safety net assistance from state and local governments is needed to make up for the reductions imposed at the federal level; and

Whereas, other participants in Social Security do not have their benefits reduced in this manner; and

Whereas, to participate or not to participate in Social Security in public sector employment is a decision of employers, even though both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision directly punish employees and their spouses; and

Whereas, although the Government Pension Offset was enacted in 1977 and the Windfall Elimination Provision was enacted in 1983, many of the benefits in dispute were paid into Social Security prior to that time; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States work together to support reform proposals that include the following protections for low-income and moderate-income government retirees:

1. Protections permitting retention of a combined public pension and Social Security benefit with no applied reductions;

2. Protections permanently ensuring that level of benefit by indexing it to inflation; and

3. Protections ensuring that no current recipient's benefit is reduced by the reform legislation; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designating May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 122

Whereas, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and

Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the upper and lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horn of the spinal cord; and

Whereas, The initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

Whereas, As ALS progresses, the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking and breathing; and

Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

Whereas, Patients with ALS typically remain alert and are aware of the loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

Whereas, ALS affects military veterans at twice the rate of the general population; and

Whereas, ALS occurs in adulthood, most commonly between 40 and 70 years of age, peaking at approximately 55 years of age, and affects both men and women without bias; and

Whereas, More than 5,000 new ALS patients are diagnosed throughout the nation each year; and

Whereas, In Pennsylvania there are currently more than 1,000 individuals who have been formally diagnosed with ALS; and

Whereas, The \$750,000 in State funding appropriated by the General Assembly for ALS support services for 2018-2019 provided services to nearly 1,000 constituents and substantial savings to the State budget and taxpayers; and

Whereas, The ALS Association reports that on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

Whereas, ALS has no known cause, prevention or cure; and

Whereas, "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the negative impact this disease has on ALS patients and their families and recognizes the research being done to eradicate ALS: Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designate the month

of May 2019 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-86. A concurrent memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to provide medical treatment and other benefits for deported veterans of the United States Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL NO. 2001

Whereas, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, at least 239 veterans of the United States armed forces have been deported to at least 34 countries; and

Whereas, those who have honorably served our country have been denied medical treatment and other benefits from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); and

Whereas, veterans who are deported and who were not seen by a VA doctor for evaluation are not allowed to claim their disabilities; and

Whereas, veterans who would otherwise seek treatment or post-traumatic stress disorder or other war-related injuries are denied approval unless they are about to die; and

Whereas, deported veterans have in fact died waiting for approval for medical treatment on the border; and

Whereas, these men and women have served in the United States armed forces and have earned the right to receive medical treatment and benefits.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress enact legislation providing medical treatment and other benefits for all veterans of the United States armed forces, including those who have been deported.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-87. A resolution adopted by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland memorializing its opposition to any expansion of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and any proposal to transfer the Baltimore-Washington Parkway from the National Park Service; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-88. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to pay increases for Members of Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence:

Report to accompany S. 1589, An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-47).

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 1790. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-48).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on Finance.

*Randolph J. Stayin, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2026.

*Amy Karpel, of Washington, to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission for a term expiring June 16, 2023.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 1771. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. JONES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1772. A bill to establish the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1773. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make improvements to the treatment of the United States territories under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy equivalent of a gallon of diesel in the case of liquefied natural gas for purposes of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund financing rate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. REED, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1775. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1776. A bill to amend title 31 of the United States Code to require that Federal children's programs be separately displayed and analyzed in the President's budget; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1777. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to include in the Annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices a section on conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, to amend the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to authorize the President to impose economic sanctions and a visa ban on the leader of an organization that commits sexual or gender-based violence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1778. A bill to provide appropriate information to Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies, pursuant to investigating terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. REED, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1779. A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HARRIS (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1780. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for studies and reports relating to the impact of legislation on spending on children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1781. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JONES):

S. 1782. A bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1783. A bill to establish responsibility for the International Outfall Interceptor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. MCSALLY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1784. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Stamp Out Elder Abuse Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1785. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to exclude authorized generic drugs from calculation of the average manufacturer price for purposes of the Medicaid drug rebate program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1786. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to establish a minimum salary threshold for bona fide executive, administrative, and professional employees exempt from Federal overtime compensation requirements, and automatically update such threshold every 3 years; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1787. A bill to require the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a national employer notification service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1788. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to enhance penalties for theft of a firearm from a Federal firearms licensee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. UDALL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. PAUL, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1789. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reform procedures for determinations on disposition of charges and the convening of courts-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 1790. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1791. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 244. A resolution expressing support for free, fair, and transparent elections in the Republic of Guatemala in order to increase prosperity, security, and access to